

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, May 4, 1900, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. 1331 Connecticut Ave., Washington, D.C. May 4th., 1900 My dear Alec:

Your telegram this morning was such a disappointment for I have been hoping that you would start on your homeward way by Monday. I want you so much my dear, it is not good for us to be separated. It is so cool here that you would not mind a walk to Georgetown.

I have nothing especial to tell you. Elsie says she thinks she will probably decide to marry Gilbert, but she is so perfectly matter of fact about it that I am sure she is not a particle in love with him. I wish we could put her in position to meet big young men. I am sure she ought to have some one stronger than Gilbert, he is sweet but I doubt his strength.

Having started Asa on Cape Nome I find him hard to rein in — he wants to go and know if he can go right off — he can't wait. He is like corked gun-powder or steam under pressure. I have heated up the steam and now the boiler is trembling under the pressure just half a chance and the engine will go off full tear. I meant to do nothing more than to put an idea into his head but he has just swallowed it all and wants to get more and go ahead. Well I know I am mixing my metaphors and getting everything into a snarl but it's past twelve now and I ought to be sleepy.

I hope you were extra nice to Mr and Mrs Kennan. He is much like you, he hates fuss and appearance of invalidism but from what Mrs Kennan said I should fear he is not far from it at times and she feels her responsibility so far from doctors.

Much love, Your, Mabel.